

# 20th ICLS

# Statistics on multinational enterprises

Theo Sparreboom Department of Statistics

16 October 2018



# Statistics on multinational enterprises

- Background and introduction
- Activities concerning statistics on multinational enterprises
- Future work



# Background and introduction

- ILO Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy (MNE Declaration) encourages governments to study the impact of MNE operations on labour markets, employment, labour standards and other aspects of decent work
- Importance of MNEs in the global economy:
  - MNEs account for an estimated third of global economic output (OECD, 2018)
  - MNEs are important for many economic & labour market issues (e.g. foreign investment, global supply chains, labour standards)
- Discussions in the ILO have highlighted the lack of (statistical) information on MNE operations and effects (see e.g. GB.320/POL/10, 2014)



20<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Labour Statisticians 10-19 October 2018, Geneva



# Activities regarding statistics on MNEs

- Several studies on employment and labour-related impacts of multinational enterprises in Mexico
  - Analysis of methodologies to collect data on MNEs, based on household surveys and establishment surveys
  - Study of the economic census in comparison with other sources
- Workshops in Mexico City (2016) and Lima (2017)
  - Confirmation of complexity of data collection
  - Clear definition and methodological guidelines are needed



International Conference of Labour Statisticians 10 to 19 October 2018



# International Conference of Labour Statisticians

International Conference of Labour Statisticians

# Activities regarding statistics on MNEs

- Study on the measurement of MNEs' activities (ILO, 2018a)
  - Definitions of MNEs
    - No precise definition in ILO MNE Declaration
    - Operational definitions are being used (e.g. foreign affiliates Eurostat, OECD)
  - OECD's Activities of Multinational Enterprises database (AMNE) and Eurostat's statistics on the structure and activity of foreign affiliates (inward and outward FATS)
    - OECD or European countries
    - Limited labour market information
  - Proposed indicators on decent work

5

# Options for future activities

- Identify countries with well-developed methodologies to produce statistics on MNEs
- Disseminate key methodological information to a wider group of countries
  - Existing good practices
  - Opportunities to better capture data on MNEs based on existing surveys (e.g. establishment survey)
- Develop guidelines for the collection of data on decent work in **MNEs**



